

FORGIVENESS AND HEALING.

International Sunday-School Lesson for January 27, 1889.
[Specially arranged from S. S. Quarterly.]
LESSON TEXT—Mark 9:1-13.
GOLDEN TEXT—Who forgiveth all their iniquities. Who healeth all their diseases.
CENTRAL TRUTH—Jesus Christ forgives the sins of all who come to Him in faith.
TIME—Summer of A. D. 28. Some days after the last lesson.
PLACE—The city of Capernaum in Galilee.
PARALLEL ACCOUNTS—Matt. 9:1-8; Luke 5:17-26. Jesus between 31 and 32 years old. Near the middle of His ministry.
INTRODUCTION—Not long after the healing of the leper, in our last lesson, Jesus returned to His home in Capernaum, where the miracle of to-day's lesson was performed.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES—1. Entered Capernaum on the return from His first tour of Galilee. In the house, either His own home (Matt. 4:13) or that of Peter, 3. The word: the word of message from God. 3. Sick of the palsy: palsy is short for paralysis, a disease of the nerves which destroys the power of motion or of feeling, or both.

The palsy is a disease which deprives the part affected of sensation or the power of motion, or both, according as the sensory or the motor nerves, or both, are attacked. A fearful form of this disease is known in Eastern countries. The term palsy, or paralysis, is used by the ancient physicians in a much wider sense than by our modern men of science. It included not only what we call paralysis, which is rarely very painful, but also cataplexy and tetanus, i. e., cramps and lockjaw. Cataplexy is caused by a contraction of the muscles in the whole or part of the body, and is very dangerous. The effects upon the parts seized are very violent and deadly. For instance, when a person is struck with it, if his hand happens to be extended, he is unable to draw it back. The cramps in Oriental countries is a fearful malady, and by no means infrequent. It is caused by the chills of the night. The limbs when seized by it remain immovable, sometimes turned in and sometimes out, in the same position as when they were first seized. The person afflicted resembles a man undergoing the torture, and experiences nearly the same exquisite sufferings.

4. Could not come nigh unto Him, for the press, or crowd, which filled not only the room but the court or area around which the house was built. The crowd extended even into the street. They uncovered the roof: the common houses, such as this probably was, were low, with flat roofs, covered with tiles of earth, and with no stairways from the street to the roof. What these four did was not uncommon in the East.

The bed: A small mattress, or blanket, perhaps, upon a low light frame. 5. Their faith: the faith of the man and his friends. Jesus saw their hearts, and they proved their faith by overcoming difficulties. Thy sins be forgiven: his first need and desire. 6. Seribes: leading men and teachers among the Jews. These had come up from Jerusalem and elsewhere (Luke 5:17) to see what Jesus was doing. 7. Blasphemy: over-speaking of God and religion; acting as if He could do what God only does. 8. Whether is easier to say: not which is easier to do, but to prove the truth of what you say. As, for instance, it is not as easy to speak Chinese as French, but it is easier for one who is ignorant to say that he can speak Chinese, for few could detect his pretensions; but multitudes could detect his pretensions to French. 10. But that ye may know: by a Divine act, which they could see. He proves the reality of the other Divine act they could not see.

COMMENTS—This sick man received from the Saviour two gifts. His body was healed, and his sins were pardoned. Which of these two gifts did the multitude appreciate most? Was it not probably the gift of healing? That they would see with their bodily eyes. It was something tangible. All through the life of our Master on earth, men rushed after Him to receive bodily healing. They came from afar for this purpose, and at times the crowds were so great that they trampled on each other in their eager haste for this kind of blessing. Now ask again what was the chief errand that brought Jesus from Heaven to earth? Did He come mainly to heal men's bodies, or feed their stomachs with loaves and fishes? To ask this question is to answer it. He came to seek and save lost sinners. That was His chief errand on earth. His healing of the body was only a kind of type of His larger healing of the soul. If any one had asked Jesus that day which gift was the greater, the bodily healing or the pardon of sins, can we doubt for one moment what His answer would have been? And if now, after 1800 years, this healed man could come back from the other world, and we should ask him which of the two gifts he received that day was the more valuable, can we doubt what he would answer? For bodily blessing is for a few years at the most, but soul healing brings blessings for eternity. Alas that the people of those days did not realize this! We nowhere read of their rushing to Jesus for pardon and purity. No crowds surrounded Him, saying: "What must we do to be saved?" So today, men would travel far for temporal blessings, who would not spend half an hour in seeking God's forgiving grace.

When these four friends came for the sick man, how strange it would have been had he said: "Oh, he would heal me, but enough off as I am. Besides, there are plenty of people who are worse than I am." Yet this is exactly what many sinners do say when their brothers or friends want to talk to them about Jesus, and carry them to Him in prayer. They reply them and say: "No; let me alone! I am as well as many whom I see around me. I am satisfied with my condition." The great difference between this palmed man and the sinner is, that he knew he was sick, while the sinner thinks he is well. Not until the sinner confesses that he needs a Saviour is there any hope for him.—Rev. A. F. Schaffner.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.
1. It is a great blessing to have Jesus in our homes.
2. Sin is like paralysis—a weakness of will, a deadness of conscience, hard to cure, ending in death.
3. The only hope of cure is going to Jesus Christ.
4. We should do all we can to bring others to Christ.
5. Difficulties should not deter us, but we should use enterprise and skill in overcoming them.

THERE was no grandeur in the lives of those to whom He revealed Himself that commended them to Him; He chose them. He loved them. Every promise to them is also to the humblest believer to-day. He hath chosen us in Christ. He loves us, and He will keep us in the possession of the inheritance, for which He hath already "made us meet" in Christ Jesus.

FRIENDS may multiply, wealth may accumulate, health may be firm and life may be full of happiness, but, dear friend, count not the oar who warns you as an enemy—death may come; and if you have not made Him who conquered death your friend, fear will take hold on your soul, and then you will call on God for mercy.

STATE NEWS ITEMS.

PATRICK ENGLISH, of Bellefontaine, aged twenty-six, while stealing a ride on a through freight on the Bee Line east of that place, fell from the train and had his skull horribly crushed. He can not live.

MICHAEL McADDEN was sentenced, at Urbana, to two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary for burglary.

NICHOLAS LAIR, an old gentleman living at Navarre, Stark County, fell on an icy sidewalk and died soon afterward from concussion of the brain.

A boy named Conklin, aged eight years, was mangled, dismembered and killed by an Erie yard engine at Gallon while picking up coal.

A POST-OFFICE has been established at Turner, Tuscarawas County, and Joseph K. Turner commissioned postmaster.

At Lancaster Judge Friener sentenced Dick Marcus to the penitentiary for life for killing Edward Moore, and Hugh Cunningham to imprisonment for one year for shooting Charles Seifried. Both are colored men.

The post-office at Stollburg, Pike County, has been abolished.

STATE TREASURER BROWN has completed his annual report, showing the condition of Ohio's finances. November 18, 1887, there was a cash balance of \$223,278.78 in the Treasury. The gross receipts for the year were \$5,889,321.32, making a total of \$6,112,600.10; disbursements from all funds amounted to \$6,001,784.75, leaving a cash balance in the Treasury November 15, 1888, of \$110,815.35. Of this balance \$30,782.71 is to the credit of the General Revenue Fund; \$1,448.60 to the Sinking Fund, and \$78,583.94 to the credit of the School Board. The total receipts from the Dow law for six months (June collection) was \$225,278.86, an average of \$440,557.73 for the year.

EDWARD CARROLL was cut and dangerously wounded by Harry Bickel, at Glendale.

The jury in the Patrick Hughes murder case at Lima returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree against William Goins, colored, indicted as one of the accessories.

WINFIELD BOWER, of Liberty, Ind., was struck by a cable car, at Cincinnati, and seriously injured.

A DAZZLINGLY brilliant rainbow immediately in the zenith was a peculiar meteorological phenomenon which attracted universal interested observation at Athens, a few days ago.

At Circleville, Mrs. Mary Redman and Amanda Tann have sued for \$5,000 each against the C. and M. V. railroad for the accidental killing of their daughters, Alice Redman and Nannie Tann, on November 15 last, alleging that the accident was due to the negligence of the railroad company.

JOE PLYMER, Charles Bowles and Henry Hurd, jr., all living near Philothia, Mercer County, were arraigned before Squire May for violation of the game law in hunting on Sunday. Bowles and Hurd pleaded guilty and got \$25 and costs. Plymer demanded a jury, who found him guilty, and he was fined \$40 and the costs, about \$70 in all. The arrests were made by Game Warden Charles W. Medford.

CERTAIN portions of Cleveland were flooded at an early hour the other morning by the bursting of a water main. The torrent uprooted shade trees, undermined buildings, tore up pavements, and, in general, conducted itself in a most reprehensible manner. No lives were lost, but the damage is estimated at \$50,000.

EDWARD L. GIBSON, aged forty-nine, a saloon-keeper at Reading, in Columbiana County, eight miles east of Alliance, suicided by shooting himself through the brain with a revolver. He leaves a wife and six children. No cause is assigned for the act.

HORSE-THIEVES the other night stole a 2000 mare from Samuel Rudy's barn, in Summit County, making the fifth horse that has been stolen in that vicinity within the past three weeks.

THE Legislature meets on Tuesday, January 8, 1889.

On a farm near Lima, the five-year-old son of Andrew Jacobs was killed by the accidental discharge of a Flobert rifle.

MICHAEL DONNEY got a \$700 verdict against the city of Urbana for injuries sustained by the giving way of a bridge.

THE new Chamber of Commerce building at Cincinnati is about ready for occupancy.

At Cincinnati, Christ Meyers, while walking in his sleep, fell down a flight of stairs and was seriously injured.

At Youngstown Mrs. Jacob Henry attempted suicide by swallowing a quantity of opium, but was saved by physicians.

Two men were instantly killed by a boiler explosion at Trowbridge. Three persons were seriously injured.

Mrs. JOHN MILLER tried to kill her husband with an axe at Toledo.

TIM THOMAS was shot and fatally wounded by Harry Hendricks, during a saloon row, at Dayton.

JOHN B. PRICE, aged forty-five, employed as a miner in the No. 2 mine of the Wellston Coal Company, was caught under falling slate and very seriously injured.

AUGUST SUMMERFELD, a Cincinnati blacksmith, attempted to commit suicide by jumping into the river. He was rescued.

HENRY H. RUTHERFORD, formerly of Cincinnati, was shot and instantly killed, at Dayton, by a woman with whom he had been living.

THREE prisoners escaped from the county jail at Zanesville.

THE sixteenth annual session of the Ohio State Grange met at Lima on the 11th inst.

A CONVICT at the Ohio penitentiary named Ours fell from the roof of the institution and was instantly killed.

AARON SHERMAN, of Wyandot County, was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting.

THOMAS AXWORTHY, defaulting city treasurer of Cleveland, who is now in London, has made a proposition to return \$100,000 to the city and in two years to repay his bondmen if prosecution is dropped and he is permitted to return to America.

CORA GRAHAM, aged twenty, daughter of ex-Commissioner Graham, of Huron Township, Huron County, was found dead in her room with a bullet hole through her heart. The young lady's eyes were affected and she was growing blind. In a fit of despondency she shot herself with her father's revolver.

THE sum of \$207,922.25 was paid during the month of November by guarantors of the Cincinnati Centennial Exposition.

THE BOSTON WOMAN.

A Cynical Critic Who Does Not Consider Her a Lovable Creature.

The Boston woman, considered as a type, affords a most entertaining study to the observer who is disposed to view things from a humorous standpoint. She is interesting because so different from the female of our species elsewhere. Unquestionably, she is not beautiful. You may promenade Washington and Tremont streets half a day, and never see one really pretty girl.

Venture into the shops and you will find not a few behind the counters. But they are not of the indigenous breed. They come, almost without exception, from "down in Maine," or from Irish-American parentage—a cross nearly always productive of pretty faces and good figures. In society, which is a sort of caste by itself, there are some handsome women, but not very many. In the population at large, beauty in petticoats is singularly lacking. Doubtless the climate has much to do with it. Here it is winter eight months in the year. There is no vegetation until the first of June to speak of, and it is mostly gone by the beginning of October. The sun is not generous with the rays it sheds upon the cold soil of Massachusetts. Such conditions are not favorable to the cultivation of loveliness. In the warm parts of the earth things bloom spontaneously, girls are more apt than not to grow up pretty, their complexions are clear and good—at any rate in the youth—and their figures are rounded with the lines of grace. It ought to be as natural for a woman to blossom into beauty, even if she fades afterwards, as for a flower. And, under favorable circumstances, it is so. In this region, however, even the young girls, at that age when they should be loveliest, are plain and angular.

The climate hereabouts is cold and hard, and it is not surprising that the Boston woman should be likewise. Seemingly, she does not try to cultivate the softer graces which should adorn her sex. Her manners in public places are apt to be unpleasant, and her ways at home are inhospitable. In short, she is not less angular morally than physically. As a rule, she is aggressively disposed, and does not hesitate to assert her equality, at least, with the masculine brute. From every thing save skirts she is practically emancipated. Even in the upper social stratum the young "bud" just entering the fashionable swim exhibits in a refined way symptoms of a like description. From the start she is entirely self-confident and methodical in her pursuit of a husband who is peculiarly desirable. She is thoroughly up in book-lore, or pretends to be so; but of the housewife's humble arts she professes the most deplorable ignorance. Positively, it is refreshing to contemplate the ill-concealed pride with which she confesses her inability to cook, sew, or do any thing else that is useful.

"It must be perfectly charming to know how to do such things," she exclaims, with transparent affectation; "but somehow, I have never had a chance to learn."

Of course, she means it to be understood that circumstances of birth and family connection have placed her beyond the necessity of vulgar labor. Her husband, when she gets him, is not likely, as may be surmised, to find such a woman in any true sense a helpmate. In all probability he will be sat upon to some extent, and made to feel that a man in the household is a necessary evil, but rather to be discouraged than otherwise. So he will take to living at his club a good deal of the time, while his wife devotes herself to social and intellectual enjoyments in company with her female friends.

On the whole, the assertion may safely be ventured that the Boston woman can scarcely be termed a lovable creature.—Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Composition of Natural Gas.

Analysis shows that the average composition of the Pittsburgh natural gas is sixty-seven parts in one hundred of marsh gas twenty-two of hydrogen, three of nitrogen, five of ethylic hydrate, one of olefiant gas, and the remaining two of oxygen, carbonic acid and carbonic oxide. In contrast with this, the gas obtained at Findlay, O., a prolific gas field in the northwestern part of that State, shows as follows: Marsh gas, ninety-three; four of nitrogen, two of hydrogen, and the remainder small portions of the other gases mentioned. In 100 liters of Pittsburgh gas, the heat units are calculated at some 789,694, in Findlay gas, 878,082, and, by way of comparison, in the same quantity of Siemens' producer gas, at 113,000. In generating steam, experiments under various boilers show 1,000 feet of gas to be equal in heating power to from 80 to 133 pounds of different kinds of coal. One pound of coal equals in value 7½ feet of natural gas; the latter explodes violently when mixed with nine to fourteen parts of air. When burned with pure oxygen, the flame temperature of natural gas is estimated at 7,100 degrees centigrade; and, when it is burned with a quantity of air just sufficient to secure perfect combustion, the temperatures are 2,333, C., for natural gas, and 1,700 for Siemens.

—Dr. Lewis A. Sayre, the eminent New York physician, says that the smoke from the stuff that is put into cigarettes irritates the mucous membrane of the bronchial tubes until they become inflamed, and in that condition they are more susceptible to the attacks of cold.

SELLING OFF AT COST.

A New Explanation of a Very Ancient Mercantile Phrase.

We met Muggins the other day in a quandary. He stood upon the street corner contemplating a pair of gloves which he held in his hand. We accosted him, and asked why he thus solemnly meditated. He gave a sudden start and looked up.

"Ah! Ah-a-ah! D'you see these gloves?"

We saw them.

"D'you know Smokington?"

We knew him.

"Well," explained Muggins, "I was coming by Smokington's this morning, and I saw, stuck up all over the front of his store, big signs of—'Selling off at cost!'"

"Thinks I to myself: 'Here's a chance; and I went in and bought these gloves and half a dozen linen handkerchiefs. I asked Smokington what he was selling to me at cost, and he said: 'Certainly.' I carried the handkerchiefs home, and asked my wife to hem them. She asked me what I paid for them; and when I told her, she laughed, and said I'd been cheated."

"They were not linen at all—only cotton—and she could buy any quantity of them for just one-half what I had paid. I wouldn't believe her. I knew—or thought I knew—Smokington to be a man of honor. I came out and put on my new gloves. They ripped. Jones saw 'em, and asked what I paid. I told him. He laughed and said I'd been cheated. He could sell the very same article for less than half what I had paid."

"Now, what I want to know is: Is Smokington a cheat? Has he been lying to me?"

We asked Muggins why he didn't go down and ascertain. He wanted us to go with him; and we went.

We found Smokington very smiling, and very busy, customers plenty, and goods going off at a rush; but at length Muggins managed to draw him aside, when he spoke as follows:

"Look here, Smokington, old boy, you've cheated me."

"Eh?—cheated, Mr. Muggins? Really, I don't see it."

"Didn't you tell me you were selling me these things at cost, and ain't you telling every body so by the signs you've got stuck up?"

Smokington smiled, and said: "Certainly."

"Well," demanded Muggins, with immense assurance and indignation, "do you mean to say that you sold me these gloves, and these cotton handkerchiefs, at cost?"

"Certainly,"

"Smokington, I thought you were a man of honor."

"My dear Muggins," said the trader, with a smile that was fairly bewitching, "you don't understand these things. It's all right. I sold it to you just as I said. Of course I could not afford to sell goods for what they cost me. I was selling off at cost to the customer! D'you see it now?"

Muggins considers himself enlightened in the especial commercial department of "Selling off at Cost;" but he thinks he shall never be able to put full confidence in Smokington again.—N. Y. Herald.

BABIES ON EXHIBITION.

How Baby Shows Are Conducted in the Rural Districts of Pennsylvania.

The farmers in certain districts of Pennsylvania have a laudable custom of entering their babies for competition at the county agricultural fairs, along with their fat steers, mammoth pumpkins, rosy-cheeked apples and now-fangled threshing-machines. The baby crop is duly catalogued, numbered and displayed in a separate annex, and a tempting array of gifts and prizes is offered for the infant which, according to the popular vote, outpoints all the others in good looks, amiability and other desirable qualities in the offspring. Every person attending the fair receives at the gate a slip of paper, on which the number of the baby preferred is to be written, to serve as a ballot. The amount of canvassing and "whooping up" that is done by persuasive mothers and pretty sisters, cousins and aunts, in behalf of the respective baby candidates, would astound a politician. Stranger or no stranger, the visitor is pounced upon by a whole bevy of fair creatures, who press upon him cards inscribed somewhat after this fashion:

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE ARE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED FOR
ABRACADABRA SWARTZOUT,
IN THE
COMPETITIVE BABY-SHOW
AT THE
SCHREIBER'S COUNTY FAIR.

The affrighted visitor receives all these solicitations in a smiling way that seems to promise more than he can possibly perform, without stuffing the ballot-box. Then he furtively scribbles on his slip of paper a number which he would not reveal for the whole world, drops it in the ballot-box. He knows that when the result of the vote is announced there is going to be trouble.

It really seems as if, with such a fine lot of babies as these competitions call out, more than one prize ought to be awarded. At a big fair in Lancaster County there were thirty "exhibits" in this line, and the little fellow who carried the election "sooped in" stakes to the value of \$500.—Frank Leslie's Weekly.

—There is one blessing that cold weather brings—it makes people generous. In cold weather people all put their hands in their pockets.

J. G. HIRONS

Makes a Visit to Old Point Comfort, From Which Place He Writes a Letter to the News-Herald Readers.

OLD POINT COMFORT, Jan. 8th, 1889.

When we (a gentleman and myself) concluded to seek a warmer climate a short time ago, the question naturally arose—Where shall we go? After listening to the advice and plans of various friends, the limits of which were Bermuda on the one hand and California on the other, we decided to take a trip by easy stages without definite plans or exact date of return. We left New York on the 5th of January—the first stormy day after a period of delightful weather, and holidays which could not have been pleasanter unless they had been colder and accompanied by snow, like the holidays we all experience pleasure in recalling. The most comfortable route of the four, from New York here, we took, going on an afternoon train on the Pennsylvania road to Baltimore, spending the night on a Bay Line steamer and reaching here in time for breakfast. The Richmond route is the most indirect route, the Cape Charles the most direct, but by either there is an hour's trip across the bay. In fair weather the twenty hours voyage by the Old Dominion S. S. Line is not an unattractive one, and is often taken advantage of by Southerners and others who have easy access to the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. The fact that we arrived here Sunday morning and will leave to-morrow would indicate that there is not much of interest, and it is true. This is both a winter and summer resort, and the winter season having just begun there are not many visitors—perhaps two hundred, which, in a hotel that can accommodate a thousand, has the effect of making one feel lonely, even if they did not have the crowded streets of New York with which to make comparison. The Hygeia, the only hotel here, is an irregular frame building, the original structure being yearly added to as the exigency of the times required. It fronts the bay for a quarter of a mile, and there is not more than fifty feet of sandy beach between it and the restless water. There are numerous wide verandas, some of which are glass-enclosed and serve as promenades in winter. The founder of the hotel came here as express agent, and seeing the necessity for a restaurant for the officers at the fort near by, started what has developed into one of the finest and best equipped hotels along the North Atlantic coast.

At Ft. Monroe are stationed about 230 soldiers, who go through with guard mounting, dress parade and little else. The fort is surrounded by a granite wall thirty-five feet high, and this by a moat from seventy-five to one hundred feet wide, containing several feet of water. From the ramparts can be seen Hampton Roads, the scene of one of the most interesting naval conflicts during the rebellion, viz: that between the Monitor and Merrimack.

About two miles distant and on Virginia soil (the point belongs to the Government) are located the National Soldiers' Home (containing over three thousand soldiers), and what to me was much more interesting, the Normal and Agricultural School for negroes and Indians. More than six hundred students, evenly divided as to sex, but unevenly divided as to race (two-third being colored and one-third Indians) are taught the various trades as well as the arts. It was not an unbecoming sight to see the young men of different races drilling under the command of as black a Major as can be found in Virginia. We afterwards saw them at dinner; the girls on one side of the table and the boys on the other, and the colored and Indians occupying different rooms for convenience alone, as one of the officials of the institution said, though he also said that while they were friendly they never become boon companions.

A short distance further lies Hampton, a dilapidated village that every State can duplicate. An unpretentious looking brick house is pointed out as being the country residence at one time of President Taylor.

I had almost forgotten to say in connection with the fort, that in a certain casemate Jefferson Davis was confined after his capture.

J. G. HIRONS.

Baltimore Budget.

January 12th, 1889.

Mr. S. W. Strain, with affinity, has returned from a visit to Milton Strain and other relatives near New Petersburg.

The series of meetings at New Petersburg in connection with the Presbyterian Church are crowded nightly.

Rev. Sharpless is delivering a series of lectures here. Subject for next Sunday evening at the Presbyterian Church is "Belt, Breast-plate and Helmet."

The second jury trial of the Ida Kennedy Co. vs. one of the employees resulted in a verdict for the latter.

Miss Siddle Upp completed to-day her term of music in which she was engaged in teaching here. The purpose, however, is to attend the Conservatory in Hillsboro.

Mrs. D. Copeland, in the absence of help, is serving herself, and her husband thinks she is X. L. JOSEPHAW.

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The President's Message.

The inaugural address of the Great Rock Island Route, the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railway, is to announce that on November 18th solid vestibule trains will be run between Chicago and Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, without change, making close connection at the above point with all trains for Salt Lake, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Oregon, and all points west; and at Kansas City and St. Joseph eastward for Chicago, St. Louis and all points north and south. These royal trains, consisting of Pullman sleeping cars, restful reclining chair cars and magnificently furnished day coaches, were built expressly for this service by the Pullman Company, and are without question the handsomest ever turned out by that famous establishment. The reclining chair cars spoken of are free to all holders of first-class tickets, and a courteous attendant will be found with every car to attend to the wants of our patrons. Ask your nearest ticket agent for a ticket via the Great Rock Island Route, or write to

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